

# Connect360: Dynamic Doctrines

July 25, 2025

- *Lesson Ten in the Connect360 unit “DiscipleMaking: Patterns of Discipleship and Evangelism for the Contemporary Church” focuses on 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17; Hebrews 5:11-13; Romans 16:17-18.*

In 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17, the apostle Paul underscored the importance of foundational doctrines in the life of a believer.

Paul wrote that “God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth” (2:13).

The truth of the gospel is central to salvation and sanctification. Believers are called to stand firm and hold fast to the teachings they have received (2:15).

Teaching provides the foundation for spiritual growth. Through greater knowledge of God via sound doctrine, believers are sanctified, grow in holiness and are conformed to the image of Christ.

In Hebrews 5:11-13, the author addressed the lack of spiritual maturity in the recipients of the letter.

The author lamented they should have progressed beyond basic teachings to deeper truths but were still in need of elementary doctrine.

The author explained that “anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness” (5:13).

This highlights the necessity of progressing from foundational doctrines to more advanced understanding, which is crucial for spiritual growth. To know God fully, believers must not only receive the basic tenets of the faith,

but also mature in their understanding of God's will as revealed in Scripture.

Romans 16:17-18 warns believers against those who promote division and teach contrary to the doctrine that has been handed down.

The apostle Paul exhorted Christians to "watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned" (16:17).

False teachers distort the gospel, and their influence can hinder spiritual growth.

It is essential believers be grounded in sound doctrine, so they can identify and reject teachings that are not in line with the truth of Scripture.

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